

Appl. No. 10/045,482  
Amdt. dated August 16, 2004  
Reply to Office action of June 17, 2004



Appl. No. : 10/045,482  
Confirmation No. : 9727  
Applicant : Dean G. Rosenberg, et al.  
Filed : October 22, 2001  
Title : DISPENSER INVENTORY  
MONITORING SYSTEM AND  
METHOD

TC/A.U. : 3627  
Examiner : ZEENDER, FLORIAN M

Docket No. : 088256-9025-00

I, Tijuana M. Jackson, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date of my signature.

Signature

Date of Signature

*Tijuana M. Jackson*  
8-16-2004

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

### RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Office action of June 17, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

### REMARKS

The Examiner has restricted this application to one of two sets of claims relating to dispenser inventory monitoring system, Group I (claims 1-12) and Group II (claims 13-24). The Applicant notes that each of the claims of the present invention is generally directed to a dispenser inventory monitoring system and method.

There are two criteria for a proper requirement for restriction: (1) the inventions must be independent and distinct as claimed; and (2) there must be a serious burden on the Examiner if restriction is not required (MPEP §803). The Applicant contends that the Examiner has improperly required restriction of the application and respectively traverses the restriction requirement because there is no serious burden on the Examiner if restriction is not required.